



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q78854

Ulrich WEGMANN

Appln. No.: 10/731,011

Confirmation No.: 6346

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: December 10, 2003

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: METHOD OF PRODUCING AN OPTICAL IMAGING SYSTEM

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents, other than any U.S. patents and patent publications, is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/731,011

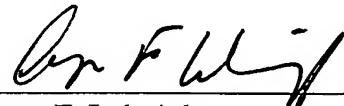
In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

In addition, certain of the foreign language documents also have U.S. counterpart publications, as evident from the enclosed Form SB/08. Finally, concise statements of relevance for certain ones of the documents being submitted are found in the Background discussion of the above-identified application.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



George F. Lehnigk  
Registration No. 36,359

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
23373  
CUSTOMER NUMBER

GFL/plr  
Date: May 10, 2004, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/731,011
				Confirmation Number	6346
				Filing Date	December 10, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Ulrich WEGMANN
				Art Unit	2852
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	Q78854

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 2002/0126266	A1	09-12-2002	Braat et al
		US 6,542,219	B2	04-1-2003	Braat et al.
		US 6,373,552	B1	04-16-2002	Braat et al.
		US 2002/0001088	A1	01-3-2002	Wegmann et al
		US 5,100,237	A	03-31-1992	Wittekoek et al.
		US 6,268,903	B1	07-31-2001	Chiba et al.
		US 5,392,119	A	02-21-1995	McArthur et al.
		US 5,828,455	A	10-27-1998	Smith et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>	
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>				
		DE	101 23 725	A1	11/21/2002	CARL ZEISS	NO
		JP	10-154657	A	6/9/1998	NIKON CORPORATION	ABSTRACT
		EP	1 022 617	A2	7/26/2000	ASM LITHOGRAPHY B.V.	CORRS TO US 2002/126266
		EP	0 393 775	A1	10/24/1990	ASM LITHOGRAPHY B.V.	CORRS TO US 5,100,237
		EP	0 724 199	B1			CORRS TO US 5,392,119
		WO	96/07075	A1	03-07-1996	LITEL INSTRUMENTS, INC.	N/A
		DE	101 09 929				CORRS TO US 2002/0001088

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.			Translation <sup>6</sup>
		C. HOFMANN, ET AL "NANOMETER-ASPHAEREN", FEINWERKTECHNIK & MESSTECHNIK 99 (1991) VOL. 10 CARL HANSER VERLAG, MUNICH GERMANY, PAGES 437 -440			

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.